

## **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

### **STAFF NOTE**

#### **Action/Discussion Item:**

Recommendation of school council authority status for Holmes Junior/Senior High School (Covington Independent School District) and Iroquois Middle School (Jefferson County Public Schools)

#### **Applicable Statutes or Regulations:**

KRS 158.6455, KRS 160.345, KRS 160.346

#### **Action Questions:**

- Should the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) accept the interim commissioner's recommendation to transfer school council authority of Holmes Junior/Senior High School (Covington Independent School District) to the superintendent and allow the school council to act in an advisory capacity until authority has been restored to the council when the school meets its goal for an accountability cycle?
- Should the Kentucky Board of Education accept the interim commissioner's recommendation to transfer school council authority of Iroquois Middle School (Jefferson County Public Schools) to the superintendent and not allow the school council to act in an advisory capacity until authority has been restored to the council when the school meets its goal for an accountability cycle?

#### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy.*** Scholastic audit teams, as required by KRS 158.6455, conducted audits at Holmes Junior/Senior High School, Covington Independent School District and Iroquois Middle School, Jefferson County School District. These teams were made up of Kentucky Department of Education representatives, highly skilled educators, independent contractors comprised of higher education representatives, experienced school and district administrators, experienced classroom teachers, and parents, as required by KRS 158.6455. Each team produced a recommendation concerning school council authority. The KDE accepted each report. KRS 160.346 instructs that the Kentucky Board of Education shall consider the audit reports, the commissioner's recommendations, and supporting information provided by the school council and superintendent. The audit reports are available upon request.

#### **Policy Issue(s) and Options:**

Allowable options include transferring school council authority to the superintendent or to a highly skilled educator and determining whether each school council shall or shall not continue in an advisory capacity.

**Staff Recommendation and Rationale:**

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) recommends transferring school council authority of Holmes Junior/Senior High School (Covington Independent School District) to the superintendent. It is further recommended the Holmes Junior/Senior High School council act in an advisory capacity until authority has been restored to the council when the school meets its goal for an accountability cycle as determined by the Kentucky Department of Education under KRS 158.6455.

The Kentucky Department of Education further recommends transferring school council authority of Iroquois Middle School (Jefferson County Public Schools) to the superintendent. It is further recommended the Iroquois Middle School council not act in an advisory capacity until authority has been restored to the council when the school meets its goal for an accountability cycle as determined by the Kentucky Department of Education under KRS 158.6455.

Holmes Junior/Senior High School has failed to meet its goal for two (2) successive accountability cycles. The school has not included actions in its school improvement plan to strengthen the school council and the school-based decision making process.

Iroquois Middle School has failed to meet its goal for two (2) successive accountability cycles. The school has not included actions in its school improvement plan to strengthen the school council and the school-based decision making process.

**Impact on Getting to Proficiency:**

The superintendent will have authority to make decisions that will improve teaching and learning and thus, student achievement.

**Contact Person:**

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**Deputy Commissioner**

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**Interim Commissioner of Education****Date:**

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